MR. M. K. NILAKANTAN : May I know from the honourable member whether any steps have been taken in response to the request made by the public ?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN : An estimate has been received and it is awaiting my inspection of it. Because the estimate looked funny, I wanted to go through it.

Improvement to Krishnasamudrakulam.

332. *MR. S. THIRAVIAM NADAR (*Nominated*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether the Government have received any petition from the ryots for effecting improvements of the Krishnasamudrakulam, Vadasseri pakuthi ;

(*b*) if so, what is the action taken ;

(*c*) whether estimate is prepared and sanction accorded ; and

(*d*) when the work will be taken up ?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) & (*c*) An estimate has been prepared and is under scrutiny.

(*d*) After the estimate is sanctioned.

Needs of Kuriannur.

333. *MR. K. A. MATHEW (*Tiruvalla*) : Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the inhabitants of Kattelbhagam (കട്ടേൽഭാഗം), Puthethubhagam (പുത്തേത്തുഭാഗം) Thevarkattilbhagam (തേവർകാട്ടിൽഭാഗം) Murippelbhagam, (മുറിപ്പേൽഭാഗം), etc. of Kuriannur in Tiruvalla taluk suffer much owing to the scarcity of water in the dry season ?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN : No.

MR. K. A. MATHEW : May I know from the honourable member whether it would be possible for his department to sink one or two wells at Kuriannoor if the need is brought before the Department ?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN : It has just been brought to the notice of the Department.

MR. K. A. MATHEW : May I know whether it would be possible ?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN : It is being investigated.

MR. K A. MATHEW : I hope it will apply to the Tiruvalla municipality also.

DEWAN BANADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN : Same; Sir.

Water supply in Tiruvalla town.

334. *MR. K. A. MATHEW : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they are aware that the people of Tiruvalla town and the neighbourhood were put to considerable hardships owing to the dearth of water in the recent dry season ; and

(*b*) whether they are aware that the people experience the difficulty every summer ?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN : (*a*) No.

(*b*) No.

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MR. K. A. MATHEW: May I know whether any scheme is being worked out in the near future?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: As soon as boring apparatuses are available, we will start boring and see whether the shallow wells can be deepened and made usable.

Drinking water for coastal area.

335. *MR. R. MADHAVAN NAIR: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware of the fact that there is general acute scarcity of drinking water in the coastal areas of Kartikapalli and Karunagapalli taluks;

(*b*) whether they have any information regarding the hardships and miseries suffered by the people in the coastal areas referred to above during terrible drought of the months of Kumbham, Meenam, Medam and Edavam this year; and

(*c*) whether any scheme is under the consideration of the Government for the supply of drinking water to those areas.

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) Yes.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know from the honourable member whether it is to redress the hardship and miseries of the people of the coastal areas that this scheme for water supply is under the consideration of Government?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: Yes, Sir, we are proposing to sink a number of deep wells and find out whether we can get good water.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: The answer to part (b) of the question is No!. How is that?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: It is a general scheme that is under consideration. It was not based on any particular thing. We have a general scheme for improvement of water supply in the coastal areas; it was not because of any particular hardship.

Scarcity of drinking water in the Kottayam town.

336. *MR. K. VARGHESE ITHAC: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the population of the municipal town of Kottayam according to the latest census;

(*b*) whether they are aware of the serious situation created in the town of Kottayam due to water shortage during the period from Kumbham to the end of Edavam this year and during the summer every year; and

(*c*) what measures the Government have taken in view of the representations already made through this House regarding this matter?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: (*a*) 33,367.

(*b*) Yes.

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